

REF ID: A66011

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FEB 1952 DL-AAA

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 30 January 1953

SUBJECT North Korean Military Training

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF
INFO.

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

Guerrilla Training Camp Near Changjŏng-ni

- On 28 August 1952 a North Korean guerrilla training camp was in three air raid shelters in the valley of Toksuk-kuk (sic) near Changjŏng-ni (128-16, 38-41) (DT-3681). Unauthorized persons, military or civilian, were not permitted within 1,000 meters of the camp. Farmers with land in the forbidden zone obtained approval to operate their farms from the district (myŏn) committee. The approval was good only for daytime work. The trainees wore North Korean army fatigue uniforms without insignia. They hiked through the mountains from 8 a.m. to 12 a.m., worked on camouflage problems from 1 p.m. until dusk, and received daily lessons in Communism. The trainees were called "hair grown" by the local people because they wore their hair long.¹ The camp was started 17 July 1952 when the group of 200 arrived in 40 oxcarts. They were to finish training and be infiltrated into South Korea by the end of 1952.

The 527 Training Unit

- In late August the headquarters of the 527 Training Unit² was in dugouts at

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YD-498095, near Mujinjang-ni (125-53, 38-54) (YD-5009). The unit, which trained new recruits, had 374 officers, 1,506 non-commissioned officers, and 5,071 enlisted men. It was commanded by Colonel WON Song (0337/2052) and was attached to North Korean army General Headquarters. The 11 Battalions of the unit were in dugouts 20 meters long, 10 meters wide and 2 meters below ground level at the following locations: 1 Battalion, YD-494095; 2 Battalion, YD-489096; 3 Battalion, YD-485099; 4 Battalion, YD-511101; 5 Battalion, YD-514100; 6 Battalion, YD-516101; 7 Battalion, YD-518102; 8 Battalion, YD-519104; 9 Battalion, YD-486084; 10 Battalion, YD-484082; 11 Battalion, YD-482082. Political instruction was given by the assistant company commanders and included classes on United States imperialism, Russian history since the revolution, Soviet state structure, other Soviet republics and autonomous areas and their social evolution, the Korean revolution since the liberation from Japan, and the North Korean constitution.

Military Academy at Unsa-dong

3. Between 10 and 25 September, a North Korean army military academy³ was in sheltered trenches at Unsa-dong (125-33, 39-00) (YD-2119). The school was opened 10 September to complete the training of officers whose training had been interrupted by United Nations advances. There were approximately 1,000 student officers, all above the rank of platoon commander, taking a 6-month course. The trainees received 2 hours of instruction per day in the use of small arms.

Mine Training for North Korean Infantrymen

4. Beginning 20 September, a 40-day period of training in the use and assembly of mines was to be given to one section from each front-line infantry company in the North Korean army.

Military Academy for Non-Commissioned Officer at Much'ang

5. On 1 October a military academy for non-commissioned officers, with 300 men and 200 women students, was at Much'ang-dong (127-18, 41-28) (CA-5891). The academy trained platoon commanders. The 6-month training period included courses in military science, guerrilla tactics, history of Communism and the manual for platoon leaders. The trainees received 4 hours of instruction and 4 hours of combat drill per day. The academy was opened 30 August 1952.

School for Heroes

6. In July a school enrolling soldiers who had been given the title of "hero" in front-line action was opened in the living quarters of the Sup'ung (124-57, 40-27) (XE-6579) power plant at XE-653791. There were about 70 enlisted men taking a 6-month political and military course.

1. [] Comment. Presumably this is done to escape detection while operating in South Korea, since South Korean soldiers wear their hair long.

2. [] Comment. [] from a different source, reported slightly different locations for the battalions of the 527 Unit and reported the same Colonel WON as commanding officer. It also included information on the number of men trained in 1951 by this unit.

3. [] Comment. See [] for information on officer's training schools in Unsa-dong. Possibly these schools are all part of the People's Army Supreme Military Academy []

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